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REMARKS

This Amendment and Response to Final Office Action is being submitted in response to the final Office Action mailed November 14, 2005. Claims 1-16, 28 and 29 are pending in the Application.

Claims 1-3, 5, 8-12, 14, 17-19, 21, 24-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Merli et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,088,141) in view of Fee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,914,794), Lindskog et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,665,262), and Davis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,377,374 B1).

Claims 4, 6, 13, 15, 20, 22, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Merli et al., Fee et al., Lindskog et al., and Davis et al. as applied to claims 1, 10, 17 and 26, and further in view of Tada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,532,862).

Claims 7, 16, 23, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Merli et al., Fee et al., Lindskog et al., and Davis et al. as applied to claims 1, 10, 17 and 26, and further in view of Cohen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,736,359).

In response to these rejections, the Claims have been amended herein, without prejudice or disclaimer to continued examination on the merits. These amendments are fully supported in the Specification, Drawings, and Claims of the Application and no new matter has been added. Based upon the amendments, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested, without further search, in view of the following remarks.